

Andrew J. Sloniewsky
202 429 6759
asloniew@steptoe.com



1330 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036-1795
202 429 3000 main
www.steptoe.com

October 22, 2014

Via U.S. Mail and Email

Brian A. May
FOIA Officer
U.S. Geological Survey
Department of the Interior
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Mail Stop 807
Room 2B116
Reston, VA 20192
foia@usgs.gov

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear Mr. May,

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552, and implementing regulations of the U.S. Department of the Interior, 43 C.F.R. Part 2, the Pebble Limited Partnership ("PLP"), by and through its counsel, Steptoe & Johnson LLP, hereby requests the release of the following documents:

1. All documents relating to or referencing a mining project in southwest Alaska sometimes called the Pebble project, the PLP mine project, or the Pebble Mine (the "Project"), or relating to or referencing any of the Project's associated features or any parties interested in developing the Project (Pebble Limited Partnership, Northern Dynasty Minerals Ltd., etc.).
2. All documents relating to or referencing a mineral deposit in southwest Alaska sometimes called the Pebble deposit or Pebble prospect (the "Deposit"), or relating to or referencing any of the Deposit's associated features or any parties interested in developing the Deposit (Pebble Limited Partnership, Northern Dynasty Minerals Ltd., etc.).

3. All documents relating to or referencing any plan or proposal to establish a mining project within the Bristol Bay watershed in southwest Alaska.

For the purposes of these requests, "document" refers to any electronic, written, graphic, video, or audio matter, however produced or reproduced, whether draft or final versions, and including but not limited to correspondence, emails, notes, interoffice communications, reports, memoranda, minutes, summaries, telephone records, telephone message logs or slips, PowerPoint presentations, meeting agendas, transcripts, call lists, spreadsheets, maps, photographs, data compilations, *Vaughn* indices, privilege logs, or calendars. The term "document" is limited to materials generated on or after January 1, 2002.

These requests include, but are not limited to, all electronic mail messages and other written communications between and among the persons listed on Attachment A to this letter that relate in any way to the Project or the Deposit. To assist the U.S. Geological Survey ("USGS"), Attachment A identifies some of the individuals who are or have been USGS employees and are known to have had some involvement with the Project. These requests encompass communications with such individuals even if they have left USGS employment, and both before and after their USGS employment ended. As also noted in Attachment A, the requests also include, without limitation, all documents referring or relating to any communications with Senator Mark Begich, including emails, letters, calendar entries, and call lists.

In responding to these requests, USGS's search should encompass, but should not be limited to: (a) documents sent to or from email addresses used by current or former USGS employees and representatives, regardless of whether such addresses are private or secondary addresses, or official USGS addresses; (b) documents relating to or evidencing presentations made by any party to agencies or entities other than USGS; (c) documents describing non-public meetings and other communications between USGS and any governmental or non-governmental parties; and (d) documents sent to governmental or non-governmental parties opposed to development of the Project where such documents were not provided to PLP.

With respect to these requests, USGS need not provide duplicative copies of documents to the extent the same document is located in more than one location.

If any documents covered by these requests have been deleted, destroyed, removed, or cannot be located, please provide all surrounding documents as well as a list of all records that have been deleted, destroyed, removed, or cannot be located, a description of actions taken in response to the unavailable documents, and any documents relevant to or generated in connection with implementing those actions.

FOIA Exemptions

Should you decide to invoke a FOIA exemption with regard to any of the requested records, please include in your full or partial denial letter sufficient information to appeal the denial. *See* 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(A)(i), (a)(6)(F). To comply with legal requirements, the following information must be included:

1. Basic factual material about each withheld item, including the originator, addressees and recipients, date, length, general subject matter, and location of each item; and
2. Explanations and justifications for the denial, including identification of the category within the governing statutory provision under which the document (or portion thereof) was withheld and a full explanation of how each exemption fits the withheld material.

If you determine that portions of a record requested are exempt from disclosure, please redact the exempt portions, identify and describe the withheld portions, specify the applicable exemption, and provide the remainder of the record. *See* 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(A)(i), (a)(6)(F), (b).

We encourage you to release any records, or portions thereof, that may technically be shielded by exemptions if there is no purpose served by withholding the requested records. *Chrysler Corp. v. Brown*, 441 U.S. 281, 294-95 (1979) (holding that FOIA exemptions are discretionary). We note that FOIA provides that an arbitrary and capricious refusal to produce responsive documents will result in investigation initiated by special counsel to determine whether disciplinary action is warranted against the individual at the agency primarily responsible for the withholding. 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(F).

Timing and Mechanics of Production

We request that in responding to this letter, USGS comply with all relevant deadlines and other obligations set forth in FOIA and the Department of the Interior's regulations, and we look forward to receiving your response within 20 working days. 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(A)(i); 43 C.F.R. § 2.16(a). Please produce records on a rolling basis; the search for – and deliberation concerning – certain documents should not delay the production of others that USGS has already retrieved and could turn over. Please note that PLP is interested in working with USGS to ensure that the burden associated with this FOIA request is minimized to the extent practicable, including discussing phased or prioritized document productions.

Brian A. May
USGS FOIA Officer
October 22, 2014
Page 4

Steptoe
STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP

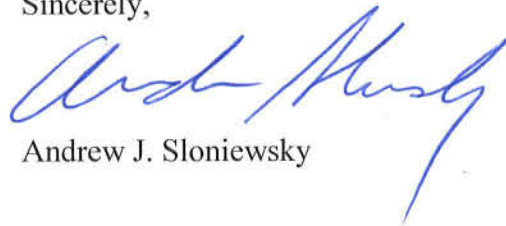
We prefer to receive electronic documents, and not paper copies, whenever possible. To the extent possible, we request that USGS provide the requested information in searchable, electronic format on CD, DVD, or external hard drives of sufficient size to contain the production. Electronic files should be provided in their original format, not in PDF containers. Individual emails, and their attachments, should be maintained as single msg files. If this is not possible, then emails and their attachments should be provided in either PST or NSF containers, thereby preserving all attachment information.

We understand that there may be fees and costs associated with this request, and we agree to pay any fees or costs up to \$1,000 associated with making these materials available to us. If the costs will be in excess of \$1,000, please advise me before such costs are incurred. To assist you in determining PLP's status to assess fees, you should know that PLP is a private business partnership seeking information for commercial use.

In responding to the present letter, please mail copies of all requested documents, indices and logs, and any invoice for reasonable FOIA fees to the undersigned.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Andrew J. Sloniewsky

Attachment

ATTACHMENT A TO 10/22/2014 FOIA REQUEST OF PEBBLE LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

	A	B
1	Luki Akelkok	
2	Michael Alakayak	
3	David Albert	
4	David Allnut	
5	Glen Alsworth	
6	Everette Anderson	
7	Bobby Andrew	
8	Dennis Andrew	
9	Moxie Andrew	
10	Peter Andrew, Jr.	
11	Wassillie Andrew	
12	Bryan Arroyo	
13	Shawn Aspelund	
14	Sue Aspelund	
15	Dave Athons	
16	David Atkins	
17	Michael Baffrey	Current or former DOI employee
18	Elizabeth Bailey	Current or former USGS employee
19	Greg Balogh	
20	James Balsiger	
21	Rebecca L. Barnard	
22	Mark Begich	
23	Joy Beisleman	Current or former USGS employee
24	Lindsey Bloom	
25	Bond	
26	Alan Boraas	
27	Tim Bowman	
28	Tim Brabets	Current or former USGS employee
29	Larry Bright	
30	Tim Bristol	
31	Phil Brna	
32	Susan Bromm	
33	Melvin Brown	
34	Shoren Brown	
35	Douglas Burn	
36	Mike Bussell	
37	Don Callaway	
38	Katherine Carscallen	
39	David Casey	
40	David Chambers	
41	Daniel Cheyette	
42	Sergie Chukwak	
43	Daniel Chythlook	
44	Joseph L. Chythlook	
45	Robert Clark	
46	Sharon Clark	
47	Keith Cohen	
48	Keith Cohon	
49	Marcia Combes	
50	Jimmy Coopchiak	
51	Debora Cooper	
52	Stacie Craddock	
53	Jennifer Curtis	
54	Joan Darnell	
55	Chris Dau	
56	Dennis Dauble	
57	Michelle Davis	

ATTACHMENT A TO 10/22/2014 FOIA REQUEST OF PEBBLE LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

	A	B
58	Heather Dean	
59	Tony DeGange	Current or former USGS employee
60	Jeff Denton	
61	Michelle DePass	
62	Jon Devine	
63	Angela Doroff	
64	Erin Dovichin	
65	Bill Dunbar	
66	Leah Durocher	
67	Clifford Edenshaw	
68	Tyler Edgar	
69	Bryce Edgmond	
70	Lorraine Edmond	
71	Mike Edwards	
72	Fertik	
73	Susan Flensburg	
74	Fontaine	
75	Tami Fordham	
76	Whit Fosburgh	
77	Scott Fraser	
78	Steve Frenzel	Current or former USGS employee
79	Jeff Frithsen	
80	Scott Fulton	
81	Jean Gamache	
82	Bruce Gamble	Current or former USGS employee
83	Irene Gamechuck	
84	Arvin Ganesan	
85	Betty Gardiner	
86	Karen Gaul	
87	Mike Gearheard	
88	Michael Gehrke	
89	Ross Geredien	
90	Bonnie Gestring	
91	Bruce Giffen	
92	Bob Gill	Current or former USGS employee
93	Robert Gillam	
94	Valanne Glooschenko	
95	Cindi Godsey	
96	Jan Goldman-Carter	
97	Judy Gottlieb	
98	Rowan Gould	
99	Natasha Greaves	
100	Lynn Griffith	
101	Anders Gustafson	
102	Jim Haga	Current or former USGS employee
103	Randy Hagenstein	
104	Rick Halford	
105	Jeanne Hanson	
106	Jasper Hardison	
107	David Harsila	
108	Joel Hard	
109	Larry Hartig	
110	Geoffrey Haskett	
111	Kyla Hastie	
112	Gretchen Hayslip	
113	Scott Hed	
114	Melissa Heuer	

ATTACHMENT A TO 10/22/2014 FOIA REQUEST OF PEBBLE LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

	A	B
115	Robert Heyano	
116	Brentwood Higman	
117	Jack Hobson	
118	Leslie Holland-Bartels	Current or former USGS employee
119	Mike Holley	
120	John Holman	
121	Bill Horn	
122	Debbie Hoseth	
123	Palmer Hough	
124	Parker Hough	
125	Kate Huber	
126	Robert Hughes	
127	Chris Hunter	
128	Alannah Hurley	
129	George Jacko	
130	Lisa Jackson	
131	Mark Jen	
132	Timothy Jennings	
133	Philip Johnson	
134	Skip Joy	
135	Denise Keehner	
136	Bill Keller	
137	Ruth Kelty	
138	Scott Kendall	
139	Warren Keogh	
140	Taryn Kiekow	
141	Richard King	
142	Anne Kinsinger	Current or former USGS employee
143	Steve Klosiewski	
144	Vic Knox	
145	Ken Kopocis	
146	Michael Kowalski	
147	Edward Kowalski	
148	Brian Kraft	
149	Moses Kritz	
150	Jonas Kron	
151	Don Kuhle	
152	Jon Kurland	
153	Brian Lance	
154	Ellen Lance	
155	Bill Larned	
156	Jim Larson	
157	Patrick Leahy	Current or former USGS employee
158	Aileen Lee	
159	Dan Leistikow	
160	Stu Levit	
161	Michael Lidgard	
162	Doug Limpinsel	
163	Bob Loeffler	
164	Dorothy M. Larson	
165	Ann Maest	
166	Matthew Magorrian	
167	Barbara Mahoney	
168	Frances Mann	
169	Sue Masica	
170	Fred Matsuno	
171	Steve Matsuoka	

ATTACHMENT A TO 10/22/2014 FOIA REQUEST OF PEBBLE LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

	A	B
172	Doug McBride	
173	Mary McBurney	
174	Katie McCafferty	
175	Gina McCarthy	
176	Julia McCarthy	
177	Patricia McGrath	
178	Tim McKeever	
179	Julie McKim	
180	Dennis McLerran	
181	Dwayne Meadows	
182	Robert Mecum	
183	Jason Metrokin	
184	Dave Meyer	Current or former USGS employee
185	Mandy Migura	
186	Heather Kendall Miller	
187	David Mills	
188	Kim Murphy	
189	Wayne Nastri	
190	Herman Nelson	
191	Russell Nelson	
192	Jenny Neyman	
193	Mark Niver	
194	Phillip North	
195	Medrick Northrop	
196	Kenneth Nukwak	
197	Sarah O'Neal	
198	Michael Oleska	
199	John Olson	
200	Lydia Olympic	
201	William Ostrand	
202	Ted Otis	
203	Geoffrey Parker	
204	Richard Parkin	
205	Marie Paul	
206	John Pavitt	
207	Gregory Peck	
208	Larry Peltz	
209	Pat Petrivalli	
210	Bob Platte	
211	Christine Psyk	
212	Bob Perciasepe	
213	Leroy Phillips	
214	Michelle Pirzadeh	
215	Mary Price	
216	Meg Purdue	
217	Judy Putera	
218	Thomas Quinn	
219	Mike Rabbe	
220	Ann Rappoport	
221	Ashley Reed	
222	Mari Reeves	
223	Mary Reeves	
224	Joel Reynolds	
225	Bill Rice	
226	Bud Rice	
227	Ron Rickman	Current or former USGS employee
228	Bill Riley	

	A	B
229	William M. Riley	
230	Daniel Rinella	
231	Greg Risdahl	
232	Deborah Rudis	
233	Robin Samuelsen	
234	Phil Santerre	
235	Phyllis K. Weber Scannell	
236	Jeanne Schaaf	
237	Daniel Schindler	
238	Janine Schmidt	Current or former USGS employee
239	Kate Schofield	
240	Bob Seal	Current or former USGS employee
241	Daniel P. Seybert	
242	Mike Shapiro	
243	Arthur Sharp	
244	John Sharp	
245	Hahn Shaw	
246	Hanh Shaw	
247	Amanda Shearer	
248	Jeff Shearer	
249	John Shively	
250	Pete Silva	
251	Charles Wesley Slaughter	
252	Smilak	
253	Brad Smith	
254	LaVerne Smith	
255	Tiel Smith	
256	Sam Sneed	
257	Sam Snyder	
258	Dianne Soderlund	
259	Frances Solomon	
260	G. Sonnevil	
261	Page Spencer	
262	John D. Stednick	
263	Cara Steiner-Riley	
264	Karen Stickman	
265	Rob Stolzman	
266	Nancy Stoner	
267	David Stout	
268	Jordan Stout	
269	Linda Stromquist	
270	Bob Sussman	
271	Glenn Suter	
272	Serena Sweet	
273	Michael Szerlog	
274	Jonathan Taylor	
275	Gusty Tallekpalek	
276	Everett Thompson	
277	Lee Tibbits	Current or former USGS employee
278	Thomas Tilden	
279	Ralph Tingey	
280	Leslie Tose	
281	Cam Toohey	Current or former DOI employee
282	Mark Trenholm	
283	Tim Troll	
284	Kim Trust	
285	Tony Turrini	

	A	B
286	Peter Van Tuyn	
287	Dirk Van Zyl	
288	Matthew Varner	
289	Brett Veerhuesen	
290	Lori Verbrugge	
291	Dale Vinson	
292	Nancy Wainwright	
293	Bob Waldrop	
294	Bronwen Wang	Current or former USGS employee
295	Harry Wassily	
296	Paul Whitney	
297	Wigington	
298	Kim Williams	
299	Nelli Williams	
300	Verner Wilson	
301	Wenona Wilson	
302	Bob Winfree	
303	Cameron Wobus	
304	Chris Wood	
305	Julie Woodke	
306	Carol Ann Woody	Current or former USGS employee
307	Thomas Yocom	
308	Dan Young	
309	Kendra Zamzow	
310	Jean Zodrow	